

ter is raised, the Minister is bound to give an answer in regard to the Calling Attention? He has not stated what is Patit Paban. He has only stated that one has been arrested. What is this organisation?

श्री जैल सिंह : राज्य मंत्री ने इसका जबाब आपको दे दिया है । जितनी जानकारी है वह दे दी है । आपकी तसल्ली नहीं हुई है ।

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Do you have any information?

श्री जैल सिंह : मैं तो पतित पावन सिर्फ भगवान को समझता ।

श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी : और उन्होंने ही मुसलमानों को मार दिया ।

13.36 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. COLLISION OF DAKSHINA EXPRESS WITH AGRA-ITARSI GOODS TRAIN AT AGRA CANTT. RAILWAY STATION ON JANUARY 27, 1982.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) Sir, with deep anguish, I apprise the House of the serious train accident which took place on the Central Railway on 27th January, 1982. On that day, at about 04.12 hours, 21 Down Hyderabad New Delhi Dakshin Express while approaching Agra Cantt. station, collided head-on with Up Itarsi Special Goods near the marshalling cabin of Agra Cantt.

As a result of the collision, the engine of 21 Down Express alongwith 10 coaches next to it derailed. The coach next to the engine which was an SLR, i.e. Second class-cum-luggage and brake van suffered extensive damage; the next two coaches, positioned second and third from the en-

gine, capsized. The following seven coaches derailed. The rearmost 4 coaches, however, remained on the track. The engine of the goods train alongwith 5 wagons also derailed.

I regret to report that, in this accident, 64 persons were killed, 13 sustained grievous injuries and 13 simple injuries. In addition, 23 persons received trivial injuries.

Immediately on receipt of information about the accident, a medical van from Agra Cantt was rushed to the site and another medical van despatched from Tundla. The Railway Doctors available at Agra Cantt reached the site at 04.30 hours. Doctors from Military Hospital, District Hospital and Medical College Hospital also reached the site immediately thereafter.

On receipt of information my colleagues the Minister of State for Railways and the Deputy Minister for Railways and Parliamentary Affairs and myself rushed to Agra Cantt. Chairman, Railway Board, and Member mechanical were already on way to Agra enroute Jhansi. The General Manager and other senior officers of central Railway were also at Agra to join the inspection by the Chairman and Member Mechanical, Railway Board. Relief and rescue operations were carried out under the personal supervision of these officers. We also visited the injured in the hospitals to ensure that best possible medical aid was given to them. We are grateful to Army and Air Force authorities at Agra as also to the Civil and Police authorities and the local public who extended their fullest co-operation in the hour of need.

Ex-gratia relief was arranged to the next of kin of the dead and to the injured persons.

The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Central Circle, Bombay, who is an independent statutory authority fun-

at Agra on
27-1-1982 (St.)

[Shri P. C. Sethi]

tioning under the administrative control of the Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation, has submitted the Preliminary report of inquiry into this accident. According to his provisional finding, the accident was due to failure of the engine crew of the Dakshin Express.

We have initiated action to inculcate safety consciousness amongst railwaymen at all levels. We have held a meeting with the General Managers of Zonal railways for taking the message of safety home to each individual railway employee.

We are laying greatest stress on the maintenance of Railways' infrastructural assets in good order.

We have appointed two high-level teams consisting of officers of the Senior Administrative Grade from different disciplines. These teams will be meeting the cross section of field workers for immediate rectification of lacunae that may exist in any area. Senior Directors of the Railway Board have been specially assigned the task of monitoring the work of these teams.

Active involvement of the Federations of Railway employees has also been ensured by holding meetings with the cross-section of staff directly concerned with the safety of railway working.

PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE (Rajapur): Sir, we have suggested that the Statement be taken into consideration under Rule 184 or 193, whichever is possible.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR (Gwalior): I have also given notice for having a discussion on this point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Sisodia has sought special permission. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee is absent. Therefore, he is allowed to introduce the Bill as a special case.

13.44 hrs.

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

13.45 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till forty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at forty-nine minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

13.46 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part III, Section 2, dated 19-2-1982.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.